



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

softens. Finally, the need of a high temperature for the combustion of tartaric and citric acid and the possibility of the oxidation of malic acid at lower temperatures explains why apples, sorbs, medlars, and other fruits which contain malic acid are able to ripen in cold climates, while grapes and oranges require warmer climates. It also explains why fruits containing malic acid ripen in cool places after picking, while grapes, and especially oranges and other citrus fruits, do so only imperfectly. However, by raising the temperature, fruits containing citric and tartaric acid will ripen in the fruit house.

E. F. S.

Ferns of Nicaragua.—An attractive-looking piece of work bearing the above title forms the second paper in the *Bulletin from the Laboratories of the State University of Iowa*, vol. iv, No. 2, pp. 116–224. The author of the paper is the well-known zoologist Mr. B. Shimek, who collected these plants on the island of Ometépe in Lake Nicaragua and in a narrow strip of country along the San Juan River. Over 120 species of ferns were collected in this small area in less than four months devoted to general botanical work. Judging from Mr. Shimek's statements, the fern flora of Nicaragua appears to be even richer in species than that of New Zealand, but the individuals are not so numerous. Only about one-fifth of the species listed by Mr. Shimek occur in Fournier's list of 121 Nicaragua ferns, and only about two-fifths in Mr. Helmsley's list of 135 species. Much of the territory is still only very imperfectly explored. The paper contains some interesting general remarks on tropical ferns, a key to the orders and families, and a list of the species collected, including helpful notes and a citation of books in which descriptions may be found. Several species are transposed into other genera, and one new species is described,—*Polypodium macbridense*. The text is supplemented by twenty well-executed half-tone plates.

E. F. S.

Pharmaceutical Archives.—With the beginning of the current year, owing to the large amount of original matter offered for the columns of the *Pharmaceutical Review*, the journal has been relieved of much of this matter by the starting under the same management of a second journal under the heading given above. The first number contains articles on the comparative structure of the leaves of *Datura stramonium*, *Atropa belladonna*, and *Hyoscyamus niger*, the popular names of Brazilian plants and their products, a chemical bibliography of morphine, and a study of the structure of the twigs